

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application as amended.

Without conceding to the propriety of the outstanding rejections, Applicants have amended the independent claims to more clearly recite specific features of the invention. In particular, Claims 20 and 29 have been amended to recite searching in storage means for one or more attributes, the attributes specifying one or more subjects for which a pair of asymmetric keys and an associate certificate must be created and creating, based on the one or more attributes, at least one first individual certification request. Independent Claim 47 now recites means for automating, based on one or more attributes associated with one or more subjects, the creation and/or certification of at least one pair of keys for each subject managed by the system. Independent Claim 51 recites searching in a storage means for one or more attributes, the attributes specifying one or more subjects for which a symmetric key must be created and creating, based on the one or more attributes, at least one individual certification request.

The outstanding Office Action utilizes various combinations of Ishii, Van Oorschot, Smith and Schneier. "Aziz" is also mentioned however there appears to be an inconsistency in the Office Action regarding this reference. Clarification as to which rejection this reference is used to support is requested.

However, as is readily apparent, Ishii is directed toward a method and system for generation and management of a secret key a public key crypto system. More specifically, it is abundantly clear from the teachings in Ishii that only a single crypto system device and only a single subject is utilized at any point. Similarly, in Smith and Van Oorschot, both of these systems are directed toward singular clients and do

not teach or suggest the searching or creating steps as claimed. The remaining references fail to overcome the deficiencies as noted above. Moreover, it would not have been obvious to modify the teaching of any of the references to include the ability to deal with a plurality of subjects in that a complete redesign of their respective systems would be required.

Newly added Claims 55 and 56 further clarify the relationship and cooperation between the wake-up mechanism and the local registration authority.

Based at least on the above, Applicant respectfully submit that the application is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the references of record. An early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place this application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to deposit account number 50-1165 any fees under 37 CFR § 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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